

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

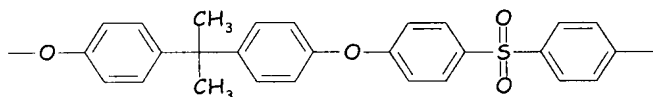
Applicants' greatly appreciate Examiner Woodward's indication of allowability in this case, as expressed during the telephonic interviews of December 8 and 9, 2009. As discussed and agreed, Applicant has combined Claims 79 and 80, have cancelled Claims 100-102, and have deleted the term "about" from Claims 103-105.

In addition, during the interviews the issue of proper dependence of Claims 56, 58, 60, 66 and 99 on Claim 88 arose, particularly with regard to the polymers specified in these claims. As discussed, and as explained below, there is a proper genus-species relationship in these claims, and they are thus in condition for allowance along with the other pending claims.

Specification pages 9 to 12 support the proper dependency of Claims 56, 58, 60, 66 and 99 on Claim 88. In particular, polyarylethersulfones are defined as polyarylene compounds in which arylene units exist irregularly or regularly together with ether and sulfone linkages. Polysulfone, polyphenylsulfone and polyethersulfone represent different species of the "polyarylethersulfone" genus.

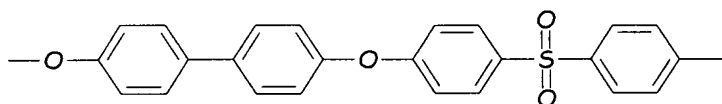
Structural units of polysulfone, polyphenylsulfone are respectively :

Polysulfone



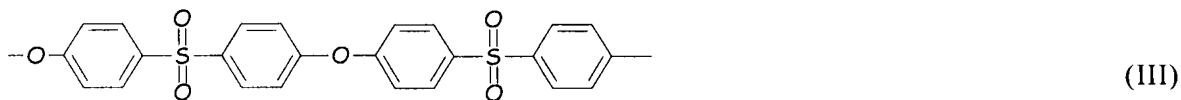
(I)

Polyphenylsulfone



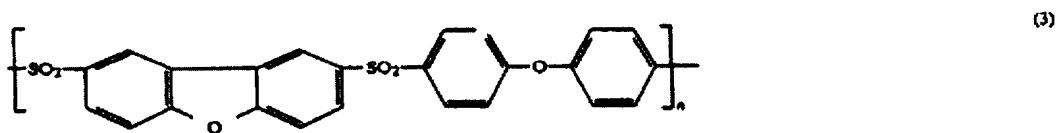
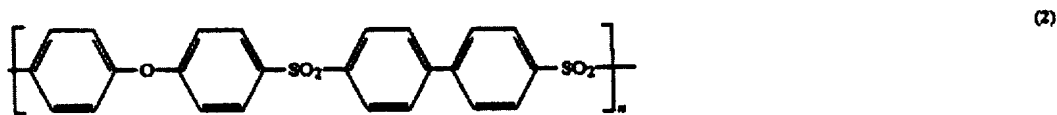
(II)

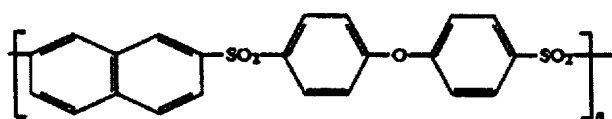
Polyethersulfone



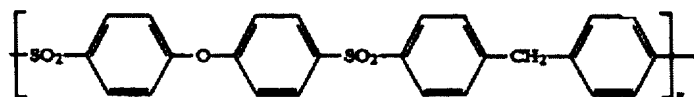
This terminology is commonly used by the skilled person, and relevant excerpts in the specification are found at pages 9 to 12, including the following:

"Other aromatic polycondensation polymers suitable for use in the polymer compositions according to the present invention include polyarylethersulfones. The polyarylethersulfone polymers used in this invention are defined as polyarylene compounds in which arylene units exist irregularly or regularly together with ether and sulfone linkages. Examples of sulfone polymers within the scope of the present invention polymers comprise the following structural formulae (1) to (16) where n is an integer of at least 10. Generally, the average number of repeat units n is greater than 30 and more typically greater than about 40 to ensure sufficiently high molecular weight for robust physical and mechanical integrity of the polymers when fabricated into structural components.

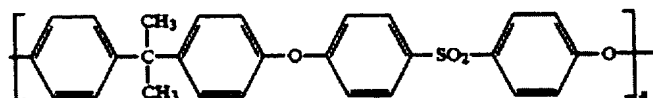




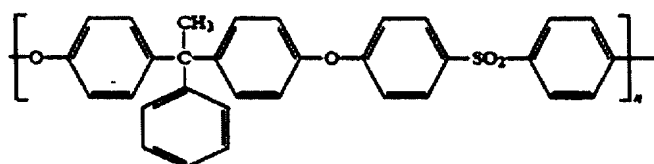
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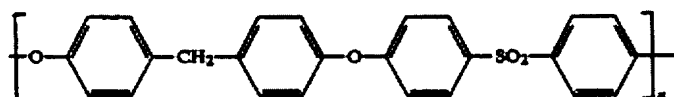
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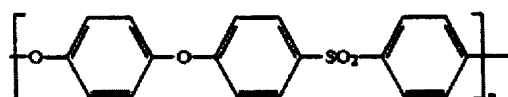
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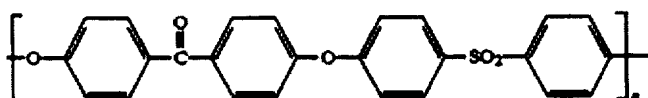
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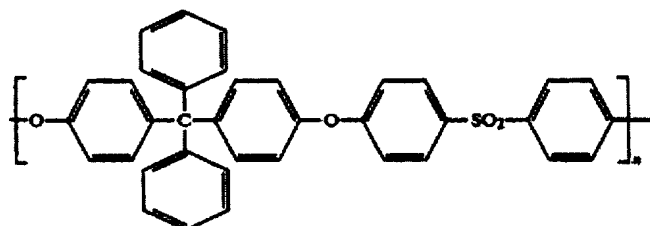
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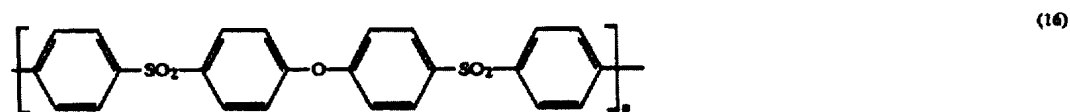
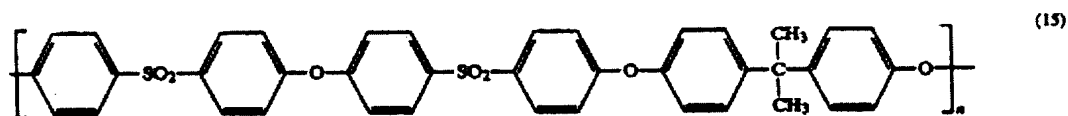
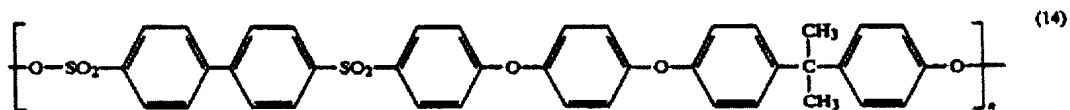
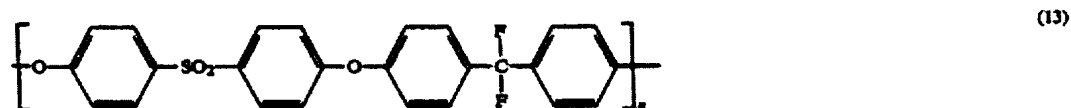
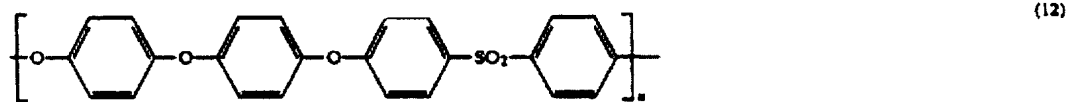
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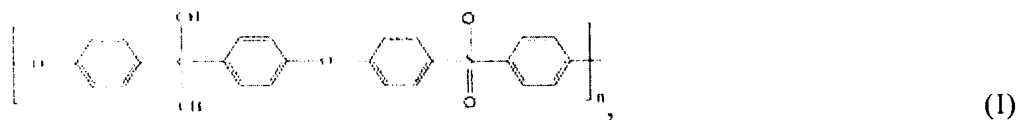


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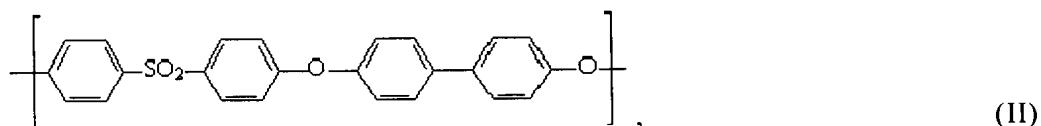


In certain embodiments of the present invention, the aromatic polycondensation polymer may preferably comprise polysulfone, polyphenylsulfone, polyethersulfone, polyetherethersulfone, and blends and copolymers thereof. The structural repeat units of polyphenylsulfone, polysulfone, polyethersulfone, and polyetherethersulfone are listed below:

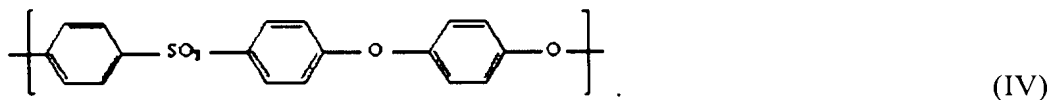
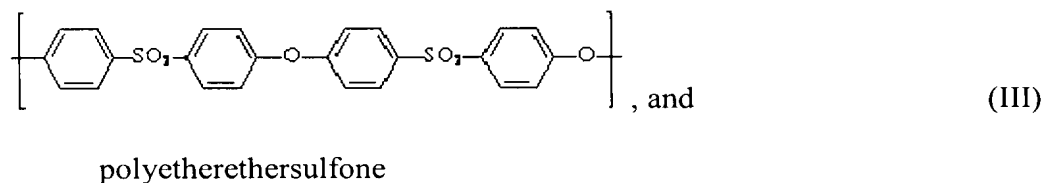
polysulfone



polyphenylsulfone



polyethersulfone



Preparation of polyarylethersulfones is described in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,108,837; 4,175,175; and Canadian Patent No. 847,963 which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties. Polysulfone is commercially available as UDEL® polysulfone from Solvay Advanced Polymers, L.L.C. Polyethersulfone and polyphenylsulfone are commercially available as RADEL® A and RADEL® R, respectively, from Solvay Advanced Polymers, L.L.C."

Accordingly, and in view of the agreements reached during the interviews and the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Richard L. Treanor
Registration No. 36,379

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)